

SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Draft until approved at the next regular meeting

The Sharon BOS held a budget workshop on March 7, 2019 at 3:00PM at the Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Fowler and Jones; Valerie Von Volz, Brent Prindle taping for Channel 6 and the secretary.

The workshop was opened at 3PM.

Items left on the proposed budget to discuss are: Hotchkiss Library (both requests); Historical Society; Town Clock new line item for repairs/maintenance; Sharon Playhouse; Health Insurance; Women's Support Services; Sharon Day Care; Community Mental Health Affiliates; Website; Greenwoods Counseling Referrals; Assistant Assessor Salary; and overall wage increases.

Hotchkiss Library: include the requested increase from \$70,000 to \$90,000 as they now have a good plan and personnel in place. Recommend at next weeks' BOS meeting that the separate request of \$44,560 go to the Board of Finance to go to a Town Meeting.

Historical Society: Recommend at next weeks' BOS meeting that the request of \$15,000 go to the Board of Finance to go to a Town Meeting.

Town Clock: The report done by the structural engineers was reviewed. Priority repair items are to the roof and the timber framing. We have no cost estimates. The exterior pointing of the mortar should be done at some point but the overall condition of the structure is good. It was agreed for now to put in a figure of \$5,000.

Sharon Playhouse: Their request of \$5,000 has been placed in the budget.

Health Insurance: No new figures have been received. So for now, the AETNA increase is figured at 20%. Upon further review of last fiscal year's actual and this year's estimated actual, the basic Town Insurance line #16 could be reduced to \$117,000.

Women's Support Services: They continue with their mission and are of value to the community. Ms. Fowler wants to follow-up on the elderly services mentioned in their request. Their requested amount of \$1,500 remains.

Sharon Day Care: They also continue with their mission and are very valuable to the community. Their request of \$40,000 remains.

Community Mental Health Affiliates: Victor Incerti, the Chief Program Manager, was present to review their services, request continued support by the Town and to answer any questions the Board may have. Mr. Incerti explained how important the financial support from the Town is to their services. He explained their "Family Base Recovery" services and how they assist DCF. They do not turn anyone away for services (which is mandated by their Grant funding) and provided transportation if it is needed. They work with various entities as well. The Board asked various questions and thanked Mr. Incerti for coming to the workshop. They offered that he attend a meeting in the future just to give the Board updates on their services. Mr. Incerti offered that they could hold presentations on various topics, one major one would be on Narcan.

Website: A revised amount has been received - \$12,534.10. This covers the individual who inputs the information on the Website, Joel Minton (the Administrator) and an upgrade to the site. Various items were discussed and the Board wants more information as they want to be sure there would be no duplication in services. This information should be obtained for Tuesday's BOS meeting.

Community Mental Health Affiliates: In reviewing their information submitted, Mr. Jones was concerned with their revenues versus contributions. It was agreed to allocate \$3,000 for now.

Greenwoods Counseling Referrals: The amount requested versus other amounts requested from organizations was discussed. It was agreed that for now, no amount would be in the budget. Mr. Jones is going to do more research.

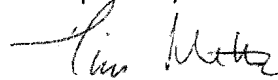
Overall wage increases: It was agreed to go with 3% for now as the Board has been working on getting compensation where it is comparable with other Towns. Our employees do a good job.

Assistant Assessor Salary: The request was for a 25% increase. The Board discussed the value of this individual who is certified. Various topics were discussed. With the overall wage increases being recommended at 3%, the Board agreed to allocate a 10% increase – the new budget figure would be \$22,000.

Then the Board went through the budget page by page to see if there was anything else they needed to discuss.

Ms. Fowler made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor. The workshop closed at 4:38.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary

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SARAH TOWN CLERK